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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Boyd, et al.

Appl. No. : 09/104,340

Filed : June 25, 1998

For : RECEPTOR-LIGAND  
SYSTEM AND ASSAY

Examiner : Basi, N.

Group Art Unit 1646

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. on

April 18, 2001

(Date)

Daniel E. Altman, Registration No. 54,115

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION OF DECEMBER 19, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants request a three-month extension of time to respond to the Notice mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 19, 2000 (paper No. 16). A check in the amount of \$445 to cover the fee for this extension is enclosed. Should any additional fees be required, including any fees for additional extensions of time, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

In response to the Notice, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

~~Please amend Claim 4 as follows:~~

4. (Amended Four Times) The isolated polypeptide of Claim 1, wherein said peptide has at least one pair of disulfide bonded cysteine residues selected from the group consisting of:

- (i) Cys<sub>71</sub> - Cys<sub>189</sub>; and  
(ii) Cys<sub>257</sub> - Cys<sub>270</sub>;

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